

MUCH WENLOCK TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a **Planning & Environment Committee meeting**
held remotely by video conference at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 2nd March 2021

Present: Councillors Mary Hill (in the chair), Yvonne Holyoak, Dafydd Jenkins, Marcus Themans, Allan Walter (from part-way through minute 4) and Milner Whiteman

In attendance: Trudi Barrett – Town Clerk, three members of the public

1. Apologies

None

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest is entered in the Register of Members' Interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

3. Dispensations

None requested.

4. Public Session

Mr Arthur Hill spoke on behalf of the Flood Group regarding progress with flooding matters during the last year, which had included building relationships with Shropshire Council officers and setting up a system of local drain wardens to monitor the condition of drains in the town. It was noted that the High Street drains were currently clear. However, Bourton Road was still a problem with gravel washing down the road and run-off from the fields overtopping the drains. Shropshire Council was drawing up a programme to clean and repair some of the drains along Bourton Road towards the Gaskell corner. Volunteers had come forward to monitor drains in Stretton Westwood, where there were serious problems which were being investigated by Shropshire Council.

Mr Hill noted a problem with flood water and silt coming from the fields above the Lady Forester Centre and the Homer road. Two drains in the parking area near to the Homer turning had been covered when the area was re-surfaced and Shropshire Council was to undertake work to remedy this issue.

Members of the Flood Group would be attending a meeting of the National Flood Forum the following day with representatives of the Environment Agency, Severn Trent, Shropshire Council and other interested bodies.

The Flood Group was in active discussions with Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency regarding concerns about Lea Quarry and also Shadwell Quarry, where the water level was rising and the water could now be 200ft deep.

Technical difficulties caused Councillor Hill to leave the meeting.

Councillor Walter joined the meeting and took the chair.

Mr Hill referenced concerns about traffic at the Gaskell corner and the previous attempt to secure a bypass for Much Wenlock. He had a copy of the plans which he would be pleased to share with Shropshire Council and the Town Council if there was a desire to reconsider these proposals.

5. Minutes

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and unanimously RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 2nd February 2021 be APPROVED and signed as a true record.

Councillor Hill re-joined the meeting and took the chair.

6. Planning Applications

a. The following planning applications were considered:

<p>21/00376/FUL Windmill Cottage, Sheinton Road, Much Wenlock</p>	<p>Erection of a single storey mansard roof orangery link extension between the existing house and garage and associated works. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to support the application.</p>
---	---

20/05318/FUL Orchard Cottage, 1 Much Wenlock Road, Farley, Much Wenlock	Erection of detached 3 bay garage. It was noted that the cottage was quite small and there was already a garage on site. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to object to the application on the grounds of overdevelopment.
20/05295/TCA Wenlock Pottery & Craft Centre, Old Chapel House, Sheinton Street, Much Wenlock	Crown reduce 1No Ash Tree by 20% within Much Wenlock Conservation Area. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED no objection.
21/00523/VAR 5-6 Old Cottages, Much Wenlock Road, Farley, Much Wenlock	Variation of Condition No. 2 (approved plans) attached to Planning Permission 18/00500/FUL dated 1 August 2018 for change of materials from stone to rendered walls. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED no objection.
For information only 21/00934/CPL 1 Manor House Close, Much Wenlock	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the erection of a proposed single storey rear extension. Noted

7. Planning Decisions

The following planning decisions were **NOTED**:

20/05297/FUL and 21/00020/LBC 61 High Street, Much Wenlock	Conversion of rear of premises to one flat and minor internal alterations to adjoining shop affecting a Grade II Listed Building Decision: Grant Permission
20/05319/FUL Proposed Residential Development Land North Of, Victoria Road, Much Wenlock	Erection of one detached dwelling (Unit 3) Decision: Grant Permission
19/04166/FUL Travis Perkins Trading Company Ltd, New Road, Much Wenlock	Proposed amendments to existing traffic management system, re-arrangement of external racking/storage areas. Decision: Refuse
20/05235/FUL Carnewydd, Farley Road, Much Wenlock	Erection of a part single/part two storey rear extension and porch to front; extension to roof to facilitate loft conversion; erection of detached double garage to front Decision: Refuse
21/00391/TCA 12 Victoria Road, Much Wenlock	Remove 1no Conifer Tree within Much Wenlock Conservation Area Decision: No Objection

8. Flooding issues

- a. An update from the Flood Group had been received in public participation.
- b. Councillors noted that a regular programme of road sweeping was required to deal with the debris washing down Bourton Road and blocking drains. This had been raised previously with Shropshire Councillor, David Turner, as well as Shropshire Council officers. There was also a problem in Victoria Road where dirt and debris were piled up but not cleared away.
There was still tarmac in the kerb drains on Bridgnorth Road by the garage. This had been raised with Shropshire Council. The kerbs near Callaughtons Lane were currently blocked by mud, probably from an agricultural vehicle.
The Clerk was asked to raise the above issues with Shropshire Council again and to seek support from Shropshire Councillor David Turner.

9. Grit Bins

Councillors noted a report from Councillor Walter on the location and condition of grit bins in the town:

- The bin on the west side of Forester Avenue needed clearing of vegetation and could need replacing
- Bins on the west side of Harley bank are in poor condition and could need replacing

- The four grit bins in St Marys Lane car park, one in Bowling Green Way and two in Falcons Court car park are not shown on the Shropshire Council map
- The bins inspected had contained a supply of grit.

It was **RESOLVED** to request additional bins for the following locations:

- **In The Paddock, approximately 100 yards from the junction with Racecourse Lane, which was on a bend with an incline**
- **On Farley Road by the Sytche Lane junction and the 30mph light-up sign**
- **In the narrow part of Sheinton Street**
- **In Station Road**
- **On Bridgnorth Road, in a suitable location near to the garage**

The Clerk was asked to make contact with Shropshire Councillor David Turner to ask him to push this forward.

10. Climate Change and Sustainability

- a. Councillors considered a request from a member of the public to install signage to encourage motorists to turn off idling engines in the town centre to reduce emissions. It was noted that leaving a vehicle engine idling unnecessarily while stationary was an offence. Shropshire Councillor David Turner had advised that he had also been approached about this matter and had contacted Public Protection at Shropshire Council. He was pursuing the idea of posters for shop windows as being easier and cheaper to implement than permanent signage. Councillors noted that signage would embolden members of the public to approach offending motorists to ask them to switch off their engines.

It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to draw attention to the issue of idling vehicles in the Wenlock Herald and to express Councillors' support for Councillor Turner's approach.

Councillor Hill would also speak to the head teacher at the primary school about the pupils making signs to display outside the school.

- b. Councillors considered information from a local resident regarding issues associated with the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill which highlighted action already taken in the town and Shropshire in terms of addressing climate change. The images provided indicated the scale of the problems associated with global warming. Reference was made to a charity in Bristol launching an on-line net zero carbon planning tool for town and parish councils. Councillor Hill undertook to follow this up. Councillors noted that it would be important for the next Council to address local issues, including farming, associated with climate change and sustainability.
- c. **It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED to write to Philip Dunne MP to urge him to support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill.**

11. Consultation

Members noted that the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government was consulting on the following and that NALC was preparing a response on behalf of local councils:

- a. Reform of part of the Right to Contest under the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980
- b. Proposals to create a new 'Office for Place'

12. Street Lighting

13. Street naming *

14. Footpath/Bridleway Creation Orders*

15. Footpath Diversion Orders*

16. Road closures*

17. Highways matters *

18. Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs)*

19. Stopping Up Orders*

20. Speed Limit Orders*

21. Prohibition Orders*

22. Date of next meeting

It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 13th April 2021 at 7.00pm.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act and due to the confidential nature of the following business to be transacted it was PROPOSED, SECONDED and RESOLVED that the public and press should not be present.

23. Planning Enforcement

No enforcement matters had been notified

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed.....
Chairman

Date.....